**Losses due to flood**

†3361. DR. D.MASTHAN:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost every year a substantial loss of life and property is caused by flood in the rivers of east Uttar Pradesh, North Bihar and North West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that it is necessary to hold a talk with Government of Nepal to formulate a plan for proper utilisation of water of these rivers by controlling the flow thereof;

(c) if so, whether Government of Nepal have been approached or any talk has been held with them in this regard during the last two years; and

(d) if so, the dates on which such approach or talk took place alongwith the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir. Substantial loss of life and property is caused by floods in the rivers originating from the Himalayas in Nepal and flowing through East Uttar Pradesh, North Bihar and Northern region of West Bengal.

(b) to (d) For the rivers entering in East Uttar Pradesh and North Bihar, Government of India has been negotiating with His Majesty's Government of Nepal (HMGN) in the matters pertaining to Water Resources Development Projects benefitting both India and Nepal for a long time. During the last two years, netotiations with HMGN for constructing storage reseroir near Pancheshwar at Indo-Nepal border on Sarda river were held 5 nos. of meetings on following dates were held with HMGN during the last two years, (i) 23—27 March, 1998

(ii) 13—15 March, 1999

(iii) 23—26 April, 1999

(iv) 3—5 August, 1999

(v) 14—16 February, 2000 As a consequence of 4 nos' of meeting held between 1998-1999 and . Indo-Nepal Joint Project Office-Pancheshwar Investigations (JPO-PI) was opened

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

at Kathmandu in December, 1999 with the mandate of conducting joint investigations for Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project. During the last meeting (14—16 February, 2000) modalities for smooth functioning of JPO-PI including procedure for technical, financial and administrative matters including detailed action plan for works was finalised.

**World Bank assistance for irrigation projects**

3362. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank is financing in irrigation projects in the country particularly in Meghalaya;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) The details of funds earmarked for accelerated irrigation projects in the country during the last three years. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir. However, there is no World Bank aided Irrigation Project in Meghalaya.

(b) The following irrigation proects are under implementation with World Bank assistance:—

| s. No. | NAME OF THE PROJECT | STATE | AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE (MILLION US $) |
|---|---|---|---|
| I. | A.P. Irrigation Project-Ill | Andhra Pradesh | 3 2 5.00 |
| 2. | A.P. Economic Restructuring Project (Irrigation componet) | Andhra Pradesh | 142.00 |
| 3. | Haryana Water Resources Consolidation | Haryana | 258.00 |
| 4. | Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project | Orissa | 290.90 |
| 5. | TN Water Resources Consolidation | Tamil Nadu | 282.90 |

(c) Under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP), funds are released on demand from concerned State Governments on year basis. The details of funds released to the State during the last three years are as under:

(Rupees in crores)

| SL No. | NAME OF THE STATE | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 74.00 | 79.67 | 65.015 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | — | — | 7.500 |
| 3. | Assam | 12.40 | 13.95 | 13.45 |
| 4. | Bihar | 14.04 | 47.825 | 144.040 |